

Form I-20: Creating and Registering

When creating the Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status,” certain information about the student and the program is required. When registering, verify the information directly with the student.

Visa Type: F-1, Academic / M-1, Vocational

Issue Reason:

- **Initial attendance:** The student is **NOT** currently in the United States and is applying for a student visa.
- **Initial attendance – change of status requested:** The student is currently in the United States and is applying for student status.

Personal Information:

- Student’s legal name (as it appears on their passport if possible)
- Student’s date of birth, gender, country of birth, country of citizenship
- Issue reason (initial attendance or initial attendance – change of status requested)
- Student’s foreign address (actual, physical address – not a recruiting agent or agency)
- The student’s U.S. address is not required until the record is registered. This is because the student may not have had time to make living arrangements.
- Dependent information – accompanying spouse and children, if any

Program Information:

- **Education level** – Select appropriate level (e.g., bachelor’s).
- **Primary major code** – Select the appropriate Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code your school is accredited to teach.
- **Secondary major code & minor code** – Select the appropriate CIP code, if any.
- **Normal length of study (months)** – for the entire program.
- **Program start date** – Must **NOT** be greater than 30 days prior to the start of classes.
- **Program end date** – Must be when the student is expected to complete the program (**NOT** any extra grace period time).
- **English proficiency** – Required proficiency for course and student’s ability.

Special Information:

- **Expenses** – includes tuition, living expenses and other costs
- **Funding** – includes personal funds, funds from the school and other funds.



Check for duplicate records before creating new. Duplicates, if any, can be found in the Drafts and Initials list.



Keep in contact with students to verify expected start dates.



Maintain copies of passports, visas and other official documents.



Register students in SEVIS every program and session start date.